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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2004

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE  
THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION  
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#### HEADLINES

##### MASS APPEAL

Iraqi children weep for their `angel,' Margaret Hassan -  
Sabah  
Iraq, too, cries for `Mother Margaret' - Hurriyet  
Husband wants Margaret's body back from insurgents -  
Milliyet  
Amnesty inquires about fate of other wounded in Fallujah  
mosque - Milliyet  
FM Gul: Incidents in Fallujah will leave deep scars -  
Milliyet  
Sunnis may revolt in Iraq, boycott elections - Aksam  
Putin's ultra nuclear bomb - Sabah  
Seven Turks killed in Iraq in past week - Milliyet

##### OPINION MAKERS

World gone mad: US not bound by law, Russia develops  
`Apocalypse' bomb, Japan changes its pacifist constitution -  
Cumhuriyet  
AI: Warring parties ignore protection of civilians in Iraq -  
Cumhuriyet  
Bush's army made up of `baby killers' - Yeni Safak  
Rice's nomination will intensify the power of the `hawks' -  
Yeni Safak  
Rice's life is all about Bush - Radikal  
Chirac: Iraq war has increased terrorism - Cumhuriyet  
Turkish NGOs protest Fallujah incidents at US Embassy -  
Zaman  
Turkish students prefer New York - Zaman

#### BRIEFING

Fallujah/Iraq: FM Abdullah Gul said that he was deeply  
saddened by the killing of a wounded, unarmed Iraqi by US  
troops in Fallujah. Gul stressed that the killing could  
have a deep psychological impact on the people of the  
region. `US must act very carefully,' Gul noted. Gul added  
that the upcoming Iraq conference in Egypt might indicate a  
`softening' of US policies with regard to Iraq.  
Parliamentary foreign relations committee chairman Mehmet  
Dulger (AK Party) said that the western world has become  
desensitized, and underestimates the value of Iraqis who  
have been killed or are missing. `They see the Iraqis as no  
different from insects,' Dulger charged. He also urged the  
EU step up to its responsibilities on the Iraq issue. AKP  
deputy group chairman Faruk Celik said that those who bomb  
children and the infirm cannot be said to constitute a great  
state. True Path Party (DYP) Chairman Mehmet Agar said that  
the murder of an Iraqi by US troops is linked to a `power  
elite that does not recognize any limit to pursuit of its  
interests.' Most commentaries today also focused on the  
Fallujah incident and included harsh criticism of the United  
States. Many columnists described US actions as `war  
crimes,' while others used the term `genocide.'

Killing of Aid Worker: Several dailies carried articles  
about the death of Margaret Hassan, the head of CARE  
International in Iraq, who was killed by her captors on  
Tuesday. "Milliyet" and "Sabah" reported condemnations of  
the killing by British and Irish leaders as well as Iraqis.  
"Cumhuriyet," however, cited Robert Fisk's column in "The  
Guardian," in which Fisk questions whether an Islamist group  
was really responsible for the killing. According to  
"Cumhuriyet," Fisk raised the possibility that Hassan may  
have been killed by someone else `to discredit the  
resistance.'

FM Gul comment on Secretary Powell: FM Gul said described  
outgoing US Secretary of State Colin Powell as a man who has  
`gained deep respect around the world.' Gul said that  
Powell, being a good soldier, had an unrivaled sense of

responsibility in critical events and in times of armed conflict. `Secretary Powell has played an extremely significant role during his time in office,' Gul said.

Turkish truckers killed in Iraq: Two more Turkish truck drivers were killed near the town of Beyci, some 200 kilometers north of Baghdad, Turkish papers report. The truckers had been traveling south on the road to Baghdad when they came under attack. A total of 31 Turks have been killed in Iraq since July 17 of this year.

Cyprus/EU: FM Gul said on Wednesday that if the EU offers Turkey any option other than full membership, Ankara would end its efforts to pursue accession talks. Turkey has taken `bold and swift' steps forward to reach solution to the Cyprus problem, Gul recalled, adding that Ankara would not recognize Nicosia before the EU summit in December. Gul also implied that a possible Greek Cypriot veto of Turkey's full accession will be blocked by other EU countries. Meanwhile, the European Parliament approved an EU assistance package for north Cyprus worth 259 million USD. The package must also be approved by the EU Council.

Turkish shop-owner closes door to Americans: A Turkish shop-owner in Ankara posted a sign saying `Americans are not allowed' in the window of his shop in order to protest recent incidents in Fallujah. The shop, which sells souvenirs and handicrafts, is located in the old part of Ankara and is frequented by American clients.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Rice Nomination

"Her Master's Voice"  
Sami Kohen commented in the mass appeal "Milliyet" (11/18): "Being very close to President Bush, Condoleezza Rice is expected to act according to her master's voice. Powell at least had the courage to warn the hawks in the administration, and managed to establish a dialogue with friendly countries based on a more flexible diplomacy. The State Department's new boss will likely act according to the strategies shaped by President Bush. All of this means that the new Bush administration will continue its unilateral and aggressive policies."

"The Reign of the Hawks"  
Yilmaz Oztuna argued in the conservative "Turkiye" (11/18): "The nomination of Rice for the State Department is a radical development which might affect world politics. Given her academic background, Rice is expected to make a rapprochement with Russia, but not with France. Such a development might lead to a role for Russia in the Broader Middle East initiative. Turkey might be offered a key role as well. . The ongoing war in Iraq is ignoring human rights, and the entire world is criticizing the Bush administration. Rice's presence at the State Department will not help to cool things off. Powell at least tried to control Rumsfeld's more extreme tendencies. Condoleezza Rice can be expected to support them and encourage him even more."

"Condoleezza Rice Bush"  
Mustafa Balbay commented in the social democrat-opinion maker "Cumhuriyet" (11/18): "Current events validate the concerns that the second Bush administration will be even more hawkish than the first. With the nomination of Condoleezza Rice, every cabinet member of the new administration can be identified closely with Bush. Apparently, Secretary Powell was a dove according to the Bush criteria. .. When you look at Rice's record during the first administration, she championed the idea of reshaping the Middle East at all costs. If you wonder about how this reshaping is to unfold, you should look at the Iraq example to see what the Bush administration understands about democracy and freedom. Rice has been dubbed the world's most powerful woman. Now she is going to do her best to exercise that power at the State Department."

EDELMAN